

**INQUIRY INTO WINDSOR BRIDGE REPLACEMENT
PROJECT**

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The Windsor Bridge Replacement project should be stopped for two reasons, it offers no traffic improvement and it will destroy value heritage.

Option 1. The replacement of the current bridge will not offer any improvement in traffic flow. The current bridge with some maintenance would function well for local traffic. The majority of the traffic i.e. heavy vehicles is through traffic so it makes no sense to funnel this traffic into Windsor. If a bypass was created the traffic that is thru traffic could avoid the area and local traffic would be greatly alleviated. This sounds a simplistic observation but it is a realistic one. I have sat and watched (and counted) trucks on any random day and the majority of large vehicles are not going into or even stopping for a coffee at Windsor. So a bypass for these vehicles is the best outcome.

The heritage value of Thompson Square is being ignored. This is the oldest public square in Australia. It is of not only state significance but federal significance. The brick barrel drains that have been found and the excellent condition they are in, this cannot be destroyed. This is a tourism gem! People travel the world to see these sort of land marks. This would increase tourism and employment possibilities in the area, something that is greatly needed.

Thompson square as a tourist area now has a number of eateries around it, including a very old pub. These businesses will be adversely effected by the proposed bridge, the vistas of concrete are not that appealing, plus the increase in traffic noise and air pollution. The demise of these businesses will increase unemployment.

Other towns all over NSW have been granted bypasses to rejuvenate town centres, some with far less traffic movements than Windsor. So why is Windsor with its rich heritage not afforded a bypass.